

Our Plants and Animals

Visitors to the city are quick to praise our majestic trees and abundant, diverse plantings. Many songbirds, owls, hawks, and waterfowl make their home here. By protecting our plants and animals, we protect what people love about our city.

- Preserve and protect our trees, especially "landmark trees"—large mature trees that are irreplaceable. These trees are gorgeous. The shade they give saves on air-conditioning costs. Their gigantic roots soak up storm water, helping to control runoff into the lakes. Lake Saint Louis is an official Tree City USA.
- To prune a tree or remove a dead tree, use an arborist licensed in Lake Saint Louis; contact City Hall or visit www.lakesaintlouis.com for a certified arborist list and Tree Owner's Manual. Removal of large, landmark trees require a permit issued by the city. [See LSL Municipal Code Section 245.040: Tree Removal Permits available at www.lakesaintlouis.com.]
- Landscape wisely. Plant Missouri native plants instead of "exotic species." Exotics are plants that can become aggressive, habitat-wrecking weeds. Examples of exotic plants to avoid are barberry, burning bush, spirea, bamboos, English ivy, and ornamental pear trees.
- Go easy on weed and insect control, and be careful not to apply them before a rain. Weed and bug killers don't hurt just the pests. They can also harm many beneficial and beautiful plants and animals.
- Avoid emptying the contents of a fish tank or garden pond into a lake—the exotic fish and plants can overgrow and destroy the natural balance of our waterways.



Our People

Caring people are the greatest resource we have. Lake Saint Louis is abundantly supplied with leaders, business people, and service organizations committed to keeping our city a wonderful place to live. We hope you'll give them your support.

- Shop locally, at the many fine stores in Lake Saint Louis. You'll save time, save gas, and keep retail and sales-tax dollars right here at home. Increase the gas savings even more by walking or biking to stores.
- Get to know your electricity supplier—Cuivre River Electric Cooperative. CREC is deeply devoted to conserving energy and burning less coal here in Missouri. They offer a free home energy audit that will show you how to save kilowatts and money.

Find out more about caring for our city and your property. Contact these city departments at 636-625-1200.

Department	Information and advice about:
Parks and Recreation: • Arborist*	Bike routes, public parks Trees, landscaping, plants, soil, fertilizers
Public Works	Lakes and storm water, trash and recycling, pet ordinances

* The arborist does not provide landscaping or tree care on private property.



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Contact: John Pellerito, 636-625-4550

Caring for Our City



*Keeping Lake Saint Louis
a beautiful place
to live.*

Prepared by the Lake Saint Louis Green Environmental Advisory Committee

Our Lakes

Two spectacular lakes are the pride of the city. Keeping the lakes clean is vital to our community's future.

- Please, remember that street drains do not flow to the sewer system, but directly into the lakes. So, to keep our lakes healthy, never dispose of paint, oil, detergents, car cleaners, pet feces, trash, leaves, or anything else in a street drain.
- Control run-off of water on your property. Plant trees and shrubs, so their roots can absorb rain water. Try a rain barrel or rain garden. Make sure all downspouts drain into the lawn, not the road or driveway. When building driveways, walks, or patios, think about paving stones and other surfaces with gaps that allow water to seep through rather than run off.
- Prevent lake pollution by limiting or avoiding the use of insect killers, weed killers, and high-nitrogen (N) lawn fertilizers; over-use of fertilizers is the primary cause of algae overgrowth in our lakes. Consider organic fertilizers, which have fairly low nitrogen content compared to chemical fertilizers.
- Clean up quickly after your dog; don't let dog feces collect in your yard, where a rainstorm can wash it out to the lake. (See LSL Municipal Code Section 210.060: Animal Waste, available at www.lakesaintlouis.com)
- When boating, avoid spilling gasoline or trash. Know the rules of the Lake Saint Louis Community Association regarding the lakes and boating—LSLCA has jurisdiction over both lakes.
- Learn more about lake and storm water management—visit our bio-retention project and demonstration rain garden in Boulevard Park.



Our Soil

Preserving healthy topsoil has many benefits for the city as a whole and for homeowners. Preventing the erosion of soil keeps our lakes from getting murky with dirt. Building good quality soil reduces the need for fertilizers and weed killers, so it helps protect our lakes.



To protect against soil erosion:

- Try to eliminate any exposed soil in your yard. Cover soil with grass, trees, shrubs, flowering plants, moss, vegetables, and herbs, and use mulch around plantings. Mulch also gives you an added bonus—it reduces the need to water plants in hot weather.
- If a drain pipe or downspout on your property is creating a gully in the soil, divert the flow or plant the area with perennial plants that like wet soil—like blue flag iris, sedge grass, and other native rain garden plants.
- If you notice a drainpipe flowing into the road or an area of soil erosion anywhere in the city, contact the Department of Public Works.

To build your soil, you may want to:

- Spread compost as a top dressing for your lawn and on gardens.
- Aerate your lawn periodically.
- Mow your lawn at a high cut, to encourage deeper roots. Every few mowings leave the grass clippings on the lawn—they are a natural fertilizer.

Our Trash and Recycling

Lake Saint Louis supports recycling as a way to conserve resources. Making new products from recycled materials uses a lot less energy and resources than starting with raw materials.

Our city has a very convenient recycling program. Curbside pick up is once a week. All paper, plastic, glass, and metal items can be placed together in the bin—no need to separate by material.

Our trash contractor also offers these services:

- Once weekly trash pick up.
- Once weekly pick up of yard waste, such as branches and bagged leaves, during the spring through fall; for pick up during the winter, please phone the city's trash contracting company.

Appliance and electronics recycling is conducted periodically by the city's Green Environmental Advisory Committee and more frequently by St. Charles County Recycle Works (www.scchealth.org/docs/es/docs/recycle/rwc.html).

Certain hazardous household waste, such as pesticides, antifreeze, and paint, can be taken to St. Charles County Recycle works; check website for details.

Lake Saint Louis City government and its employee-led Green Group are committed to saving taxpayer dollars by:

- Recycling office paper, packaging, plastic office supplies, and many other items used at City Hall.
- Reusing things and keeping them until they wear out, rather than buying new things.
- Reducing purchases, through better planning.